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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/752,381	12/28/2000	Jennifer K. Rouse	G01.001	1515

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[REDACTED] EXAMINER

VU, KIEU D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2173	5

DATE MAILED: 09/17/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/752,381	ROUSE ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Kieu D Vu	2173	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 December 2000.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-44 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-44 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____

2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-3, 12-14, 23-25, and 34-36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Palmer et al ("Palmer", USP 6577324).

Regarding claims 1, 12, 23, and 34, Palmer teaches a user interface for providing instructional information (col 1, lines 62-64), comprising instructional text describing a plurality of steps to perform a task (col 22, lines 49-56 and Fig. 23); and a plurality of alternative media indicators (textual documentation or audio presentation or video presentation), each of the plurality of alternative media indicators (reference characters 788 and 784) associated with one or more of the plurality of steps and selectable to cause presentation of an alternative media presentation instructing performance of the associated one or more of the plurality of steps (col 23, lines 1-10).

Regarding claims 2, 13, 24, and 35, Palmer teaches that a first of the alternative media indicators (talking keys, audio presentation) is associated with a first one or more of the plurality of steps (col 23, lines 16-18), wherein a second of the alternative media indicators (video presentation) is associated with a second one or

more of the plurality of steps (col 23, lines 20-23), and wherein a third of the plurality of alternative media indicators (textual presentation) is associated with the first one or more of the plurality of steps and with the second one or more of the plurality of steps (col 23, lines 18-23).

Regarding claims 3, 14, 25, and 36, Palmer teaches that each of the plurality of steps is associated with one of the alternative media indicators (col 23, lines 14-20).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 4-11, 15-22, 26-33, and 37-44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Palmer and Brewer et al ("Brewer", USP 5550967).

Regarding claims 4-5, 15-16, 26-27, and 37-38, Palmer teaches a user interface for providing instructional information (col 1, lines 62-64), comprising instructional text describing a plurality of steps to perform a task (col 22, lines 49-56 and Fig. 23); and a plurality of alternative media indicators (textual documentation or audio presentation or video presentation), each of the plurality of alternative media indicators (reference characters 788 and 784) associated with one or more of the plurality of steps and selectable to cause presentation of an alternative media presentation instructing performance of the associated one or more of the plurality of steps (col 23, lines 1-10). Palmer differs from the claim in that Palmer does not teach a search interface to allow

the user to search for desired instructional text. However, such feature is known in the art as taught by Brewer. Brewer teaches a help interface which comprises the searching for instructional information (line 66 of col 9 to line 6 of col 10). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teaching of Palmer and Brewer before him at the time the invention was made, to modify the help system taught by Palmer to include the search function taught by Brewer with the motivation being to enable the user to quickly access to the desired help function.

Regarding claims 6, 17, 28, and 39, Palmer teaches that the instructional text comprises a plurality of steps to perform a task (col 22, lines 49-56 and Fig. 23).

Regarding claims 7, 18, 29, and 40, Palmer teaches that the instructional interface presents a plurality of alternative media indicators (textual documentation or audio presentation or video presentation).

Regarding claims 8, 19, 30, and 41, Palmer teaches that each of the plurality of alternative media indicators associated with one or more of the plurality of steps (reference characters 788 and 784).

Regarding claims 9, 20, 31, and 42, Palmer teaches that selection of one of the alternative media indicators causes presentation of an alternative media presentation, the alternative media presentation instructing performance of the associated one or more of the plurality of steps (Fig. 24).

Regarding claims 10, 21, 32, and 43, Palmer teaches that a first of the alternative media indicators (talking keys, audio presentation) is associated with a first one or more of the plurality of steps (col 23, lines 16-18), wherein a second of the

alternative media indicators (video presentation) is associated with a second one or more of the plurality of steps (col 23, lines 20-23), and wherein a third of the plurality of alternative media indicators (textual presentation) is associated with the first one or more of the plurality of steps and with the second one or more of the plurality of steps (col 23, lines 18-23).

Regarding claims 11, 22, 33, and 44, Parmer teaches that each of the plurality of steps is associated with one of the alternative media indicators (col 23, lines 14-20).

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kieu D. Vu whose telephone number is (703-605-1232). The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Thu from 7:00AM to 3:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Cabeca, can be reached on (703- 308-3116).

The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are as follows:

(703)-746-7238 (After Final Communication)

or

(703)-746-7239 (Official Communications)

(703)-746-7240 (For Status Inquiries, draft communication)

and / or:

(703)-746-5639 (use this FAX #, only after approval by Examiner, for "INFORMAL" or "DRAFT" communication. Examiners may request that a formal paper / amendment be faxed directly to them on occasions)

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703-305-3900).

Kieu D. Vu

September 2, 03


JOHN CABECA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100